

I join Governor Allen and all of Virginia in saluting Andy.

TRIBUTE TO RAY OJEDA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Ray Ojeda, a good friend and the outgoing mayor of San Fernando. Under Ray's intelligent and firm leadership, San Fernando has strengthened its ties to the local business community, paving the way for better economic times in the city.

Ray also took charge in the aftermath of the Northridge earthquake, which destroyed or damaged many buildings in San Fernando. The mayor provided a steady hand, and worked hard to get San Fernando its fair share of State and Federal assistance.

A resident of San Fernando for 18 years, Ray epitomizes the definition of public servant. Prior to his election to the City Council in 1992, Ray served as a planning commissioner and as a member of the Kiwanis Club. In his public role he has always emphasized the importance of community pride, a message that has particular application in San Fernando, where a few years ago gangs and graffiti were all too common. The recent turnaround is a testimony to Ray's efforts.

With two children and several grandchildren, along with a passion for golf and hunting, Ray leads an active life outside politics. In addition, Ray is the owner of Ray's Window Coverings in San Fernando.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Ray Ojeda, businessman/politician/father/grandfather, who has worked tirelessly on behalf of San Fernando. The residents are indeed lucky to have had him as mayor, and to continue to have him on the city council.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF EMMANUEL COLLEGE OF BOSTON

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize Emmanuel College of Boston on its 75th anniversary. Emmanuel College was founded in 1919 by Sister Helen Madeleine Ingraham and the Sisters of Notre Dame.

As the oldest women's Catholic college in New England, Emmanuel College's mission has been one of providing women with an outstanding liberal arts education rooted in Catholic heritage.

Mr. Speaker, I wish the students, administrators, faculty, and alumnae of Emmanuel College a happy 75th anniversary and continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO NANCY DALY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 1995

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last week I was honored to address the Second Annual Service to Children Awards Dinner in Los Angeles, and to present to Nancy Daly the Lifetime Service Award.

Ms. Daly, the founder of United Friends of the Children, is one of the most remarkable, effective and persistent advocates I have ever known, and she richly deserves this great honor. I would like to share my remarks with the Members of the House.

TRIBUTE TO NANCY DALY

I am very honored to make some remarks this evening, because Nancy Daly is a woman who sends a powerful message—to Los Angeles and to America—about what it means to dedicate ourselves to children. And I speak as a member of a profession where proclaiming your concern about children is a requirement of membership.

My path and Nancy's have crossed many times, including our service together on the National Commission on Children with Senator Jay Rockefeller, where she was the leading proponent for family preservation programs. But we worked on the same issues for years before we ever met.

Fifteen years ago, after years of investigations and hearings, Congress enacted my bill to reform the national foster care and adoption laws, P.L. 96-272.

It was at that same time that Nancy went out to visit MacLaren Children's Center, never dreaming that visit would change her life's work or the lives of so many others in this city. While I was massaging my colleagues in Congress to vote for my bill, Nancy was shampooing the heads of foster kids at MacLaren, and deciding that this system needed change, and that she was the one to change it.

It was in that same year that Nancy founded United Friends of the Children, that stunningly successful volunteer organization working with the abandoned and neglected children of MacLaren, working to improve the children's resources, their educational development, supporting college tuition programs and providing critical transitional help from foster care to independence through creation of low cost housing for those emancipated from the system.

Throughout the 1980s, Nancy became one of the premier advocates for family preservation programs—efforts designed by agencies and the courts to provide intensive service to at-risk families to help them work through serious problems rather than fragmenting, at great cost to the children and often to the state as well. She has mobilized the formidable resources of the entertainment community on behalf of children's issues, and is a vigorous promoter of programs to assure that children have proper legal representation in the court system when critical decisions are being made about their placements, their rights and their futures. And she played the central role in the creation of the Los Angeles Department of Children and Youth to give young people an advocate in government even though they are too young to have a voice in its management.

Not bad for a volunteer.

As Nancy was creating and participating in these, and many more activities, I served as the first chairman of the Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families in the Congress, a panel created by Tip O'Neill at my

urging because children simply were not receiving the special attention they merited in federal policy. Oh, sure there were educational laws and health laws, foster care laws and child care laws; but no one was looking out for the kids, not for the program or the bureaucracy or the politics: just the kids.

And that Select Committee did what it was supposed to do. We raised the visibility of children, we held up a mirror to the Congress and said, "Like 'em or not, these are America's kids." We travelled throughout this country for eight years, putting children on the Congress' agenda: children with disabilities, children without homes, children of violence, children with AIDS, children in gangs, children without food, children in poverty. America's future. America's "most precious resource." The subject of every politician's favorite photo op.

And I think many in Congress were truly shocked by what they saw: the millions of children, about to inherit this nation, who were growing up in Third World conditions, abused, hungry, violent, with little or no investment in society or even in their own futures.

The mission of the Select Committee, you see, wasn't to score political points, but—perhaps naively—to depoliticize children in the political debate: to make it clear to conservative Republicans, Yellow Dog Democrats and Bleeding Heart liberals alike that you can't lecture America's children into being good citizens, or productive workers or responsible adults if you ignore their most basic needs in their formative years.

Children really don't care if you're liberal or conservative, a hard heart or a bleeding heart. They don't care if you're a volunteer, a case worker, a lawyer, or a congressman. They know when they're hurting, when they're scared, when they're hungry, when they're confused, and all they want to know is, "Are you going to be there for me?"

And, I suppose, that is what is so terribly tragic about what is going on in Washington today. A new political leadership in Congress, which shows no evidence at all of understanding children or public policy towards children, is putting a torch to most of what Nancy and I, and many others in this room and across America, have spent our lives doing. And don't get me wrong: I have no particular concern if someone wants to rewrite the nutrition, child care, family violence, foster care, adoption laws I wrote in the '70s, '80s and '90s—if they want to make them better.

But let's not kid anyone: the new congressional leadership isn't about improving the system, they are about destroying it, and the children be damned.

How else do you explain proposals to throw infants off income assistance because of the mistakes of their mothers?

How else do you explain \$7 billion in nutrition cuts—exposing pregnant women, newborns and school children to serious deficiencies?

How else do you explain a punitive "welfare reform" plan that puts no one to work, but deprives five million people of basic assistance—300,000 right here in Los Angeles?

How else do you explain dissembling our foster care reforms with the result that children will be housed in unlicensed homes, with few if any services to them or their parents, with no legal representation or hopes for permanent homes?

I remember well in the early '80s when David Stockman came before the Budget Committee and I asked him how, in light of the uncontroverted evidence that the WIC program saved babies lives and money, too, he could justify slashing that program. And